

THE

HISTORIAN

OF HANCOCK

Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi

NOVEMBER 2006

NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS

Our speaker for the November 16th luncheon meeting will be Kay Gough of Bay Books, 131 Main Street. A slate of new officers will be presented and voted on at this time. Installation of new officers will take place at the December meeting.

As usual the meeting will be held at the Kate Lobrano House at 108 Cue Street, 12:00 noon. Please call for reservations as the seating is limited. Since we need to know how many for which to prepare, we are asking that you call us to reserve a seat no later than 3:00 P.M. Tuesday, November 15th.

Many thanks again to all of the volunteers who worked to make our 13th annual Cemetery Tour a success. The weather was wonderful and spirits (no pun intended) were high.

We would also like to thank Mrs. Jane McAbee of Thomas-ton, Ga., who donated to the Historical Society the American flag used in the December 6, 2003, headstone dedication for Lott McArthur Sones.

NOTE: THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY HAS A NEW POST OFFICE ADDRESS. IT IS P. O. BOX 3356.



The Cecil N. Bean circa. 1921

FERRY ACROSS THE BAY

As of Wednesday, November 1, the new ferry, the Marissa Mae Nicole, transported passengers and cars across the Bay, once again connecting the towns of Bay St. Louis and Pass Christian.

According to the Sun Herald, "...by its second run of the day it was carrying capacity loads. (In fact, Paul and Stella LaViolette Historical Society members)) rode over on the ferry that left Bay St. Louis at

10:15. It arrived in Henderson Point 25 minutes later, off-loaded 19 cars in five minutes, took on 21 cars and a motor cycle and left at 10:55. The leisurely 6 1/2 - 7 mph trip allows time for folks to get out of their cars and visit."

EIGHTY YEARS AGO

According to Charles Gray, historian, and Hancock County Historical Society Director, "Captain Ernest Drackett began running the ferry the Cecil N. Bean in 1921."

Mr. Gray also related the story of how on "...Saturday nights on the return trip from Henderson

THE

HISTORIAN

OF HANCOCK COUNTY

Editor - Dale St. Amant

Published monthly by the

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MONDAY — FRIDAY
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MISSION STATEMENT

"TO PRESERVE THE GENERAL AND ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY OF HANCOCK COUNTY AND TO PRESERVE THE KATE LOBRANO HOUSE AND COLLECTIONS THEREIN; TO RESEARCH AND INTERPRET LIFE IN HANCOCK COUNTY; AND TO ENCOURAGE AN APPRECIATION OF AND INTEREST IN HISTORICAL PRESERVATION."

**President's
MESSAGE**

The holidays will soon be upon us. Our first holiday of the season, Halloween and our cemetery tour, has come and gone also. Our tour was a roaring success. It is another big step in our county's recovery.

I would like to thank all of our devoted members who made the tour such a success. Our house staff went overboard for us. Our actors were wonderful, and their costumes this year were terrific. Those of you who brought treats did a bang up job. They were delicious! We had many guides and support personnel, all of whom did a wonderful job as well as the house workers. It truly was a team effort. Thank you all so very much.

For those of you who attended, thank you for attending. I hope we pleased and entertained you. We grossed over \$700.00 for cemetery restoration.

At our November meeting we will present a new slate of officers. If you would like to join us, give us a call. If everybody does just a little, then no one has to do a lot. See you at the meeting.

Melinda

Photo by John Fitzhugh Sun Herald

"Putting the two together (the Bay and the Pass) is putting the heart back together," Paul said.

"Psychologically, if not physically, said Stella."

Sun Herald/Don Hammack

As the traffic increased, the Cecil N. Bean was unable to handle all of the vehicles. In 1828 a federally funded bridge was dedicated.

In August, 1953 a concrete bridge was dedicated and served its purpose until it was devastated by hurricane Katrina on August 29, 2005.

The new bridge has a tentative opening date of May 16, 2007, at least for two lanes of traffic, after that the ferry will have served its purpose and will no longer be used.

(cont. from p. 1)
 Point at midnight, they'd put down anchor and had a band on board, partied until daylight, and then came ashore. It was a Saturday night floating club from midnight until six in the morning."

Memories of WAVELAND

A watercolor by Kathe Calhoun.



*Kathe does it
again!*



WAVELAND -

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VOTE

LiLi Stahler



Alderman - Ward 1 - Waveland

For YOU

For WARD 1

For WAVELAND

The General Election is December 5th. If you will not be in Waveland at that time, you may absentee vote before the election at Waveland City Hall – Trailer 2 on Coleman and Central Avenues or you may call City Hall 228-467-4134 and an absentee ballot will be sent to you.

228 467-5179 home

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lilistahler@mchsi.com

HALLOWEEN TOUR 2006—A ROUSING SUCCESS

After having to cancel the 2005 Halloween Cemetery Tour because of Hurricane Katrina, the Board of Directors, members, and staff of the Hancock County Historical Society were dedicated to making the 2006 tour one of the most memorable. With the help of many volunteers, the donation of many cookies, cupcakes, and candies, and the dedication of many fine actors, this year's tour was a rousing success.

Pictured on these two pages are the actors as the characters they portrayed with a very brief sketch of the lives they introduced to the many people who attended the tour.

The spirit of nationally known folk artist, **Miss Alice Moseley**, welcomed guests and accepted their kind and generous donations. The apparition of **Kate Lobrano** was the next character to greet guests. She owned the house which is now the home of the Hancock County Historical Society and with her husband maintained residences in Pointe a la Hache, LA, and Bay Saint Louis.

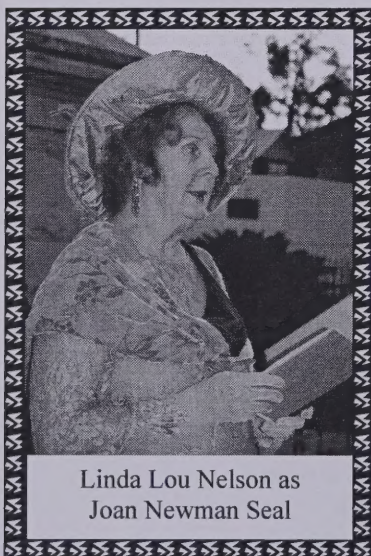
Standing before her sepulcher, the specter of **Joan Newman Seal** related incidents in her life. A woman of means, she was a landowner who donated the south section of Cedar Rest Cemetery to Bay Saint Louis. Her home is currently the Palm House Bed and Breakfast.



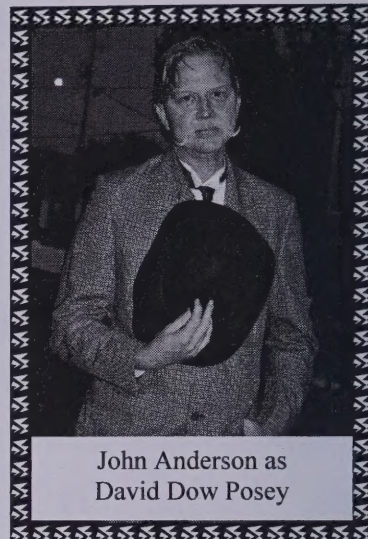
Dale St. Amant as
Alice Moseley



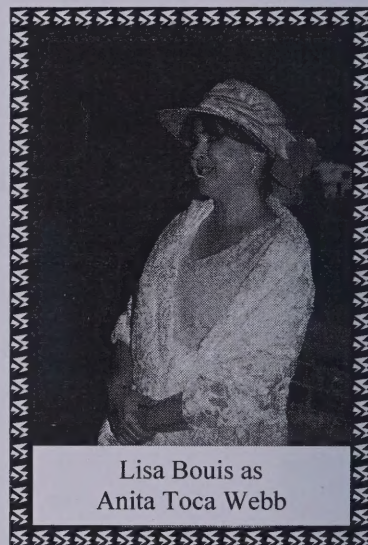
Melinda Richard as
Kate Lobrano



Linda Lou Nelson as
Joan Newman Seal



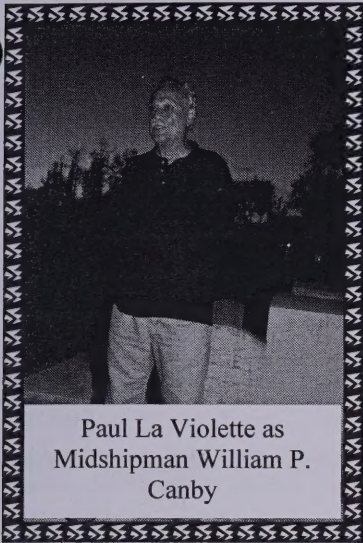
John Anderson as
David Dow Posey



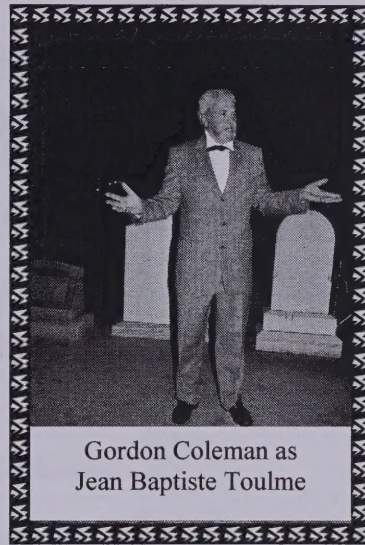
Lisa Bouis as
Anita Toca Webb



Marsha Favre as
Mrs. Charles Taconi



Paul La Violette as
Midshipman William P.
Canby



Gordon Coleman as
Jean Baptiste Toulme

David Dow Posey, appearing as an incorporeal being, entertained visitors with the saga of his life. He was a road commissioner who came to Hancock County to serve as superintendent of the building of a logging railroad for the Ingram-Day Lumber Company. Unfortunately he drank heavily and was shot by Sheriff Oscar Favre.

The vision of **Anita Toca Webb**, wife of Robert W. Webb who served as mayor of Bay Saint Louis, discussed her life in the Bay.

Entertaining guests with the story of her life, the apparition of **Mrs. Charles Taconi** spoke of raising flowers and selling preserves made with fruit from her orchard.

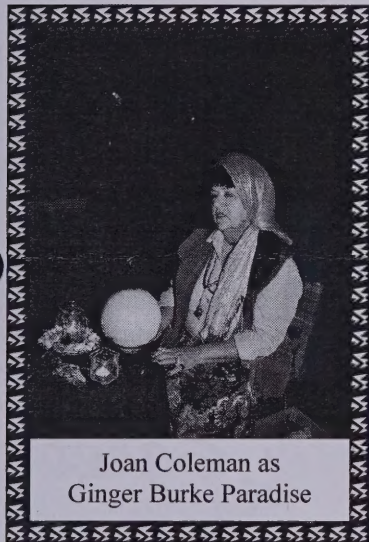
The ethereal appearance of **Midshipman William P. Canby** explained the naval action he saw in the Mississippi Sound during the War of 1812.

With crystal ball and other accoutrements, the phantasm of the gypsy queen, **Ginger Burke Paradise**, reported on her

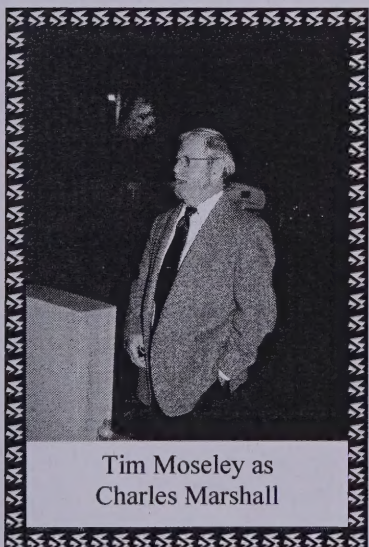
life in Bay Saint Louis.

Charles Marshall appeared in his spiritual form to entertain visitors with the story of his life as superintendent of the L & N Railroad. In an attempt to give travelers a good first impression of towns to and through which they traveled, he created parks around the depots. One in nearby Ocean Springs still bears his name.

Bringing the tour to an end, the spiritual presence of **Jean Baptiste Toulme** spoke mainly of his descendants. After losing his fortune in Santo Domingo because of a native uprising, he eventually moved to Shieldsborough [Bay Saint Louis] where his son later owned most of the land on the beach from Washington Street to the north side of Main Street.



Joan Coleman as
Ginger Burke Paradise



Tim Moseley as
Charles Marshall



Donna Davenport

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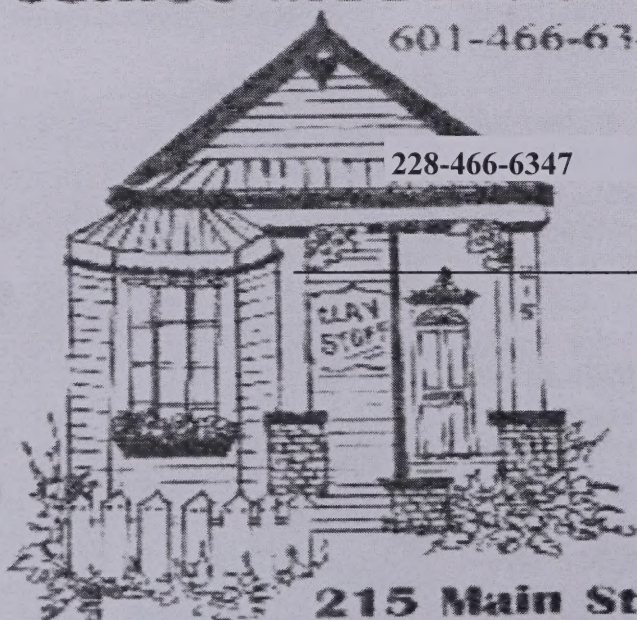
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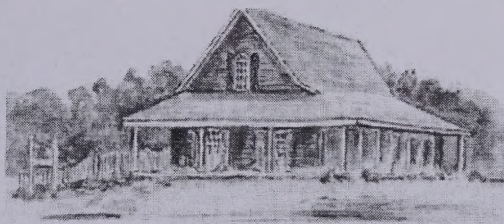
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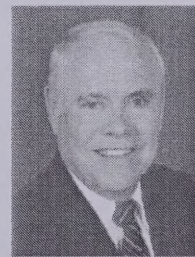
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